

TUESDAY, August 17, 1993



UN'FAIR' TO ANIMALS?

Steve Griffin/The Salt Lake Tribune

The sheep may not be thrilled about getting a bath, but Dallin Child of Draper wants his fuzzy friend to put its best hoof forward during the Salt Lake County Fair, which started Monday in Murray. The event runs through Saturday and offers competitions in everything from livestock to art to the Miss Salt Lake County Fair Contest. Utah entertainers on tap include The Saliva Sisters, Tami Hales, Western Alibi and others.

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Summit County May Ask Voters to Fund Recreation Sites in Snyderville Basin

By Christopher Smith
THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

COALVILLE — Summit County voters may be asked to help pay to build new recreation facilities and parks in the rapidly growing Snyderville Basin north of Park City.

County commissioners will decide next week whether to conduct a special election on a proposed \$3 million general obligation bond. The election is being sought by the Snyderville Basin Recreation Advisory Board, a panel of residents that wants the taxing authority to build and operate parks, ball fields and other recreation facilities in the unincorporated basin.

Summit County is the second-fastest growing county in Utah, with much of the residential growth occurring in Snyderville Basin subdivisions such as Jeremy Ranch, Silver Springs, Ranch Place, Sun Peak and Pinebrook.

Although the basin has an overall assessed property value of \$400 million, there are no public recreation facilities nearby, adding pressure on Park City playing fields and programs.

If the \$3 million bond election is placed on the ballot and passed, an estimated \$88 would be added

to the annual property tax bill of a \$150,000 assessed-value home in the basin. Only the residents within the so-called recreation district would see their taxes increase.

The bond repayment would take 20 years, and Summit County Clerk Douglas Geary estimated the special taxing district for the recreation election would include 500 to 600 eligible voters. While the recreation advisory board says it needs up to \$3 million to build facilities, no specific project has been targeted for the money.

"That's one of the concerns," says Commission Chairman Gene Moser of Park City. "People might want to know what their money is going to buy."

Still, several proposals for recreation facilities have been discussed.

In May, a group of longtime landowners in the basin unveiled the proposed Leland S. Swaner Memorial Park, a 680-acre nature preserve with trails, an amphitheater, picnic area, wildflower meadows and visitor center. The preserve would be in the meadows known as Parley's Park, a section of the basin symbolic of the battle over open spaces and encroaching residential development.

Last year, the Mountainland Association of Governments also presented plans for a recreation complex featuring baseball and softball diamonds, equestrian trails and picnic areas.

Earlier this summer, the recreation advisory board mailed surveys to basin residents seeking opinions on needed facilities for the area, which is inhabited increasingly by Salt Lake City commuters.

County commissioners agree there's a need for recreation sites in the basin. But they want clarifications on the ballot proposal before deciding whether to put it before voters Oct. 12.

Although members of the recreation board didn't attend Monday county commission meeting, county staffers say the board anticipates needing \$100,000 annually to pay for maintenance and operation of any new park. Those funds would have to be raised through a separate tax levied in an election and could not come from the general obligation bond.

Commissioners decided to wait until their meeting Monday in Coalville with recreation board members before making a decision on the election.

GAO Report Blames Lack of Data For Delay in Status for Spotted Frog

By Mike Gorrell
THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

A lack of biological data was the primary reason the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service took three years longer than required to determine whether the spotted frog should be designated an "endangered species," a U.S. General Accounting Office report said.

The GAO said other factors responsible for the delay were insufficient staff resources and concerns expressed by a "member of Congress" about the potential impacts of the listing on the development of Jordanelle Reservoir near Heber City.

But the report downplayed the importance of the interest displayed by the unnamed congressman, believed to be former Sen.

A decision on the spotted frog's status was supposed to be made by May 4, 1990, a year after the Utah Nature Study Society formally asked the Fish and Wildlife Service for an endangered-species designation.

The society's amateur herpetologist, Peter Hovingh, contended the listing was necessary because the species was declining along the Wasatch Front.

Jordanelle Reservoir would make matters worse by inundating a prime breeding ground for the frogs, which are 3 to 4 inches long and have large dark spots on their backs and abdomen, ranging in color from yellow to red.

Although the Fish and Wildlife Service determined the designation might be warranted, it didn't

FOR THE RECORD

Wrestlers: Ogden police found more than they bargained for after an auto-pedestrian accident at 7 p.m. Saturday. Two men had been hit by a truck. But it happened while they were rolling in the street, fighting over a motorcycle allegedly stolen and vandalized by one of the men. In the end, Ogden Officer M.F. Santos said, the motorcycle owner was booked into the Weber County jail for allegedly threatening the suspected thief with a dangerous weapon just before the street scuffle.

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Sexual Assault: Frank Dean Morley, 32, was charged Monday with sexually assaulting a 10-year-old boy twice last month. The boy told South Salt Lake police that Mr. Morley had